



**For Immediate Release
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**USBG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HOLLY SHIMIZU TO RECEIVE
AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S
"GREAT AMERICAN GARDENERS" AWARD**

WASHINGTON – Ms. Holly Shimizu, Executive Director of the U.S. Botanic Garden (USBG), will be honored by the American Horticultural Society as a recipient of its 2008 Great American Gardeners Award at a ceremony to be held on June 6, 2008. She was recognized with the Professional Award which is given to a public garden administrator whose achievements during the course of his or her career have cultivated widespread interest in horticulture.

Ms. Shimizu has served as Executive Director of the USBG since 2000. Over the past several years, she has overseen the major renovation of the Conservatory and developed the National Garden, which opened in 2006. During her career she served as the first curator of the National Herb Garden at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., and as the managing director at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond, Virginia.

For 12 years, Ms. Shimizu was a host on *The Victory Garden*, broadcast on PBS and HGTV. She also has contributed material for many books and magazines. She serves on the advisory board of the American Botanical Council, and is on the board of directors of the American Public Gardens Association.

The American Horticultural Society was founded in 1922. This educational organization recognizes and promotes excellence in American horticulture. The Great American Gardeners Awards recognize the significant contributions made by individuals to "plant research, garden communications, landscape design, youth gardening, teaching, and conservation."

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